

## Message Text

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54

ACTION NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 ACDA-19 SAB-01 DRC-01 SSO-00 /127 W

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R 101111Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1571

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USINT CAIRO

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 0983

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAG: PFOR, JO, IS

SUBJ: JORDAN-ISRAEL DISENGAGEMENT ISSUE

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

REF: A) TEL AVIV 560 G) JERUSALEM 213

C) JERUSALEM 213, D) AMMAN 809

1. WE FIND OF INTEREST AMMAN REFTEL COMMENTING ON GOJ AIRING OF A GENERAL OUTLINE OF JORDANIAN- ISRAELI DISENGAGEMENT ISSUE, WHICH UNDOUBTEDLY WILL FEED FURTHER SPECULATION IN ISRAEL ON THIS SUBJECT. VARIOUS BITS AND PIECES OF THIS STORY HAVE BEEN SURFACING IN ISRAEL FOR PAST FEW WEEKS REPORTS THAT THERE HAVE BEEN HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS BETWEEN ISRAELI AND JORDANIAN REPRESENTATIVES TO DISCUSS DISENGAGEMENT ISSUE, THAT JOINT JORDANIAN-ISRAELI MILITARY AND DIPLOMATIC WORKING GROUPS WILL BE SET UP IN MARCH OR APRIL, AND THAT JORDAN HAS PRESENTED PLAN TO ISRAEL CALLING FOR INTERIM ARRANGEMENT ENTAILING ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM JORDAN RIVER TO DEPTH OF TWENTY KILOMETERS WHICH WOULD REMAIN AS DEMILITARIZED ZONE UNDER JORDANIAN CIVIL ADMINIS-  
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TRATION. ALTHOUGH GOI HAS PUBLICLY DENIED IN AUTHORITATIVE

WAY THAT THERE ARE SECRET NEGOTIATIONS UNDERWAY WITH JORDAN OR EVEN THAT CABINET HAS CONSIDERED IDEAS ON INTERIM SETTLEMENT WITH JORDAN, MANY OBSERVERS HAVE ADOPTED ATTITUDE THAT WHERE THERE'S SMOKE, THERE'S FIRE.

2. HUSSEIN'S SPEECH OF FEB 13 IMPLIED THAT A JORDANIAN PROPOSAL ON SEPARATION OF FORCES HAD BEEN PRESENTED TO ISRAEL AND THAT ISRAEL HAD MADE COUNTERPROPOSALS WHICH HUSSEIN REGARDED AS UNACCEPTABLE. STORY FILED FROM AMMAN BY NYT REPORTER TERENCE SMITH (AND CARRIED IN FEB 15 WIRELESS FILE) TENDS TO LEND CREDENCE TO STORY THAT JORDAN AND ISRAEL ARE ENGAGED IN A DIALOGUE ON DISENGAGEMENT. IN THIS REGARD, SENIOR NEWSWEEK EDITOR DE BORCHGAVE HAS TOLD US THAT HE HAD DISTINCT IMPRESSION AFTER TALKING TO WELL-PLACED SOURCES IN JERUSALEM THAT GOI WAS WORKING UP A PLAN CALLING FOR LIMITED ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM WEST BANK AND THAT PLAN WAS FAIRLY FAR ALONG IN ITS DEVELOPMENT; IT SEEMS POSSIBLE DE BORCHGRAVE WILL WRITE PIECE TO THIS EFFECT.

3. ONE FINAL NOTE TO ABOVE: IT WAS ANNOUNCED JAN 31 BY IDF SPOKESMAN THAT MAJGEN SHLOMO GAZIT WOULD BE RELIEVED SHORTLY OF HIS POSITION AS COORDINATOR FOR ISRAELI ACTIVITIES IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. WE WERE TOLD BY MFA SOURCES AFTER ABOVE ANNOUNCEMENT WAS MADE THAT GAZIT IN FACT HAD NOT BEEN ACTIVE IN RUNNING OCCUPIED TERRITORIES FOR PAST TWO MONTHS AND THAT HE HAD BEEN ASSIGNED SPECIAL TASK BY GOI, NATURE OF WHICH MFA SOURCE COULD OR WOULD NOT SPECIFY. GAZIT WOULD APPEAR TO BE LOGICAL CANDIDATE TO HEAD ISRAELI WORKING GROUP ON ISRAELI-JORDANIAN DISENGAGEMENT, AND WE WOULD NOT BE SURPRISED TO LEARN THAT PREPARATION FOR THIS IS WHAT HE HAS BEEN ENGAGED IN OVER PAST FEW WEEKS.

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, IS, JO, (GAZIT, SHLOMO)  
**To:** STATE  
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